

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 42. (Canceled)

43. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:1.

44. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 43, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

45. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 44, wherein said heterologous promoter is an inducible promoter.

46. (New) An isolated polynucleotide which is fully complimentary to the polynucleotide of Claim 43.

47. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 43.

48. (New) A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 43.

49. (New) A plant cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 43.

50. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 43.

51. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 50, wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

52. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 50, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean plant.

53. (New) A method of making a transgenic plant comprising introducing the polynucleotide of Claim 43 into the plant.

54. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence consisting of a sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:2.

55. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 54, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

56. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 55, wherein said heterologous promoter is an inducible promoter.

57. (New) An isolated polynucleotide which is fully complimentary to the polynucleotide of Claim 54.

58. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 54.

59. (New) A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 54.

60. (New) A plant cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 54.

61. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 54.

62. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 61, wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

63. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 61, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean plant.

64. (New) A method of making a transgenic plant comprising introducing the polynucleotide of Claim 54 into the plant.

65. (New) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of SEQ ID NO:1.

66. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 65 operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

67. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 66, wherein said heterologous promoter is an inducible promoter.

68. (New) An isolated polynucleotide which is fully complimentary to the polynucleotide of Claim 65.

69. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 65.

70. (New) A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 65.

71. (New) A plant cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 65.

72. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 65.

73. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 72, wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

74. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 72, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean plant.

75. (New) A method of making a transgenic plant comprising introducing the polynucleotide of Claim 65 into the plant.

76. (New) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a nucleic acid sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:2.

77. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 76, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

78. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 77, wherein said heterologous promoter is an inducible promoter.

79. (New) An isolated polynucleotide which is fully complimentary to the polynucleotide of Claim 76.

80. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 76.

81. (New) A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 76.

82. (New) A plant cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 76.

83. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 76.

84. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 83, wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

85. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 83, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean plant.

86. (New) A method of making a transgenic plant comprising introducing the

polynucleotide of Claim 76 into the plant.

87. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence consisting of a sequence encoding a polypeptide having 95% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide has serine/threonine kinase activity.

88. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 87, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

89. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 88, wherein said heterologous promoter is an inducible promoter.

90. (New) An isolated polynucleotide which is fully complementary to the polynucleotide of Claim 87.

91. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 87.

92. (New) A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 87.

93. (New) A plant cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 87.

94. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 87.

95. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 94, wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

96. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 94, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean plant.

97. (New) A method of making a transgenic plant comprising introducing the polynucleotide of Claim 87 into the plant.

98. (New) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having 95% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide has serine/threonine kinase activity.

99. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 98, wherein said nucleic acid

sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

100. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 99, wherein said heterologous promoter is an inducible promoter.

101. (New) An isolated polynucleotide which is fully complimentary to the polynucleotide of Claim 98.

102. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 98.

103. (New) A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 98.

104. (New) A plant cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 98.

105. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 98.

106. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 105, wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

107. (New) The transgenic plant of Claim 105, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of wheat, corn, peanut, cotton, oat, and soybean plant.

108. (New) A method of making a transgenic plant comprising introducing the polynucleotide of Claim 98 into the plant.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-42 have been canceled and have been rewritten, in part, as new Claims 43-108.

New Claims 43-108 are supported by the original claims 1-22, 32, and 33, as well as the specification at pages 4-22.

The specification has been amended beginning on page 12, line 18 to remove an embedded hyperlink. Applicants note that in the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration filed on February 21, 2003, this amendment was made; however, the beginning page and line number were indicated as page 6, line 19. Also in the response filed on February 21, 2003, the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 19 was properly amended and it is this amendment of that paragraph that should control. However, for sake of clarity, the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 19 is reproduced herein above.

No new matter is believed to have been introduced by the present amendment.